



TFW 3673

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Masasuke Kawasaki

Serial No.: 09/823,909

Filed: March 29, 2001

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS USEFUL IN  
STABILIZING PLATFORMS AND  
VESSELS HAVING PLATFORMS AND  
LEGS

Group Art Unit: 3673

Examiner: Singh, S.

Atty. Dkt. No.: DSGN:002US/MTG

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
37 C.F.R. § 1.8

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

January 3, 2006

Date

Mark T. Garrett

**RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 1, 2005 ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

M.S. – Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

This paper is submitted in response to the November 1, 2005 Election of Species Requirement.

Applicant thanks Examiner Singh for taking the time to talk with Applicant's representative Mark Garrett on November 8, 2005. The election of species requirement was discussed, and Applicant's representative understands that the Examiner is drawing a distinction between the embodiments that utilize flexible braces (e.g., chains) and those that utilize rigid braces (e.g., like those shown in FIG. 20A).

Based on this understanding, Applicant elects to prosecute Species I directed to those embodiments utilizing flexible braces. Applicant believes that the following claims, when read in light of the specification, may be "readable" on elected Species I: 1-4, 9, 12, 13, 15-20, 22, 23, 40-51, 54, 55, 61, 66, 70, 71, 84, 85, 86.

The present election and designation of claims "readable" on the elected species is made only for the purpose of complying with the election requirement. Applicant reserves the right to make any argument necessary concerning the scope or proper construction of terms within the designated "readable" claims. Nothing in this response should be taken as an admission or disclaimer concerning the scope of those claims. Applicant also reserves comment about which claims are generic to the species identified by the Office.

#### **Petition for Extension of Time**

Applicant petitions for a 1-month extension of time to respond to the November 1, 2005 election requirement, which brings the due date to January 3, 2006 by virtue of January 1 falling on a Sunday and January 2 being a holiday. The Commissioner is authorized to deduct the appropriate fees from Fulbright & Jaworski Deposit Account No.: 50-1212/DSGN:002US.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-3031 with any questions, comments or suggestions concerning this patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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